

**Remarks/Argument**

This paper is submitted responsive to the Official Action mailed June 30, 2004. Reconsideration of the application in light of the accompanying remarks and amendments is respectfully requested.

In the aforesaid action, the Examiner objected to the drawings, indicating that a Figure showing four compensation cylinders was needed. By the present amendment, the drawings are amended to label the original drawing as Figure 1, and to add new Figure 2, which shows the four (4) compensation cylinders. No new matter has been added. The specification has also been amended to refer to Figures 1 and 2, and no new matter has been added here either. Approval and entry of the amended drawings and specification amendments is respectfully requested, and it is believed that this overcomes the Examiner's objection to the drawings.

The Examiner had also objected to the Abstract. By the present amendment, the Abstract is amended to address the Examiner's concerns and it is believed that this objection is also resolved.

The Examiner had objected to and also rejected the claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The issues raised in the action have been addressed by the present claim amendment, as well as several other antecedent basis issues which became apparent during preparation of this paper, and it is believed that the claims are now in proper form.

Finally, the Examiner rejected all claims of the application based upon primary reference US Patent Number 5,749,279 to Gardner. Reconsideration of this rejection is

respectfully requested. The present invention includes a hydraulic connection (25) between the compensation cylinder and the V-ring cylinder. This connection according to the present invention is further described in the specification at page 3, line 15 through page 4, line 16, for example. This connection is clearly and positively recited in claim 1 as amended and is further recited in claim 8.

Gardner does not teach or in any way suggest this connection. Rather, in Gardner, the air pressure source has two outlet passages 114 and 116, each of which is in fluid communication with one of the motors of that device. There is no direct fluid communication between motors 46, 48 and motor 26. This is a critical feature of the present invention and is not present in any of the art of record.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claim 1 as amended clearly defines over the art of record.

Dependent claims 2-8 all depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, and are believed to be allowable based upon this dependency. Further, these claims contain patentable subject matter in their own right.

For example, claim 8 is further drawn to the hydraulic connection between compensation cylinder and V-ring cylinder. Nothing in the art of record suggests this subject matter.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to

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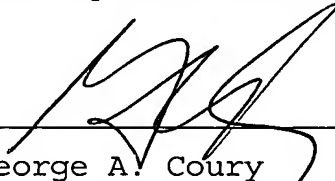
telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

It is believed that no additional fee is due in connection with this response. If any fee is due, please charge same to deposit account no. 02-0184.

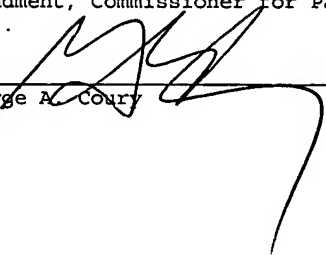
Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 30, 2004.

  
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George A. Coury